

Effective 5/10/2016

63H-7a-206 Functional consolidation of PSAPs study.

(1) As used in this section:

- (a) "Exigent circumstance" means an unexpected or unforeseen circumstance that, if not addressed, will result in imminent injury or loss.
- (b) "Functional consolidation" means the process of ensuring that disparate public safety answering points and public safety dispatching centers work together in an efficient and effective way.
- (c) "PSAP operator":
 - (i) means a public agency that operates a PSAP; and
 - (ii) does not include an institution of higher education, a school district, or an airport authority that operates a PSAP.

(2) Beginning on or after July 1, 2015, the board shall commission and oversee a performance audit and study of the state's 911 emergency response system and related elements of the public safety communications network, which shall include:

- (a) a review of statutory provisions and efforts of the authority, executive director, Utah 911 Division, and Interoperability Division regarding the assessment, planning, rules, technology review, and standardization of the state's 911 emergency response system and related elements of the public safety communications network;
- (b) working with state and local stakeholders to determine potential cost savings and increases in quality and efficiency that may be achieved by the functional consolidation of PSAPs and dispatch centers throughout the state, including recommendations regarding:
 - (i) an efficient and effective public safety communications management structure to ensure that high quality 911 emergency services are available to the state's citizens;
 - (ii) common standard operating procedures that ensure the least amount of call processing time;
 - (iii) efficient methods to transfer calls between PSAPs and from a PSAP to a first responder, regardless of jurisdiction;
 - (iv) uniformity of equipment and software protocols to accomplish seamless functionality between computer aided dispatch systems;
 - (v) interoperable telephonic and radio systems to ensure coordination between jurisdictions; and
 - (vi) how unnecessary duplication of services may be reduced or eliminated;
- (c) making recommendations for inclusion in the comprehensive strategic plan required by Subsection 63H-7a-204(18), which recommendations shall include for the state's 911 emergency response system and related elements of the public safety communications network:
 - (i) whether the state's 911 emergency response system would benefit from functional consolidation of PSAPs;
 - (ii) how PSAPs within designated regions may accept calls and provide emergency communication services for first responders using interoperable equipment, software, protocols, and standard operating procedures;
 - (iii) how PSAPs, regardless of physical location, may operate on interoperable, shared, or hosted technology platforms and with common policies to reduce the need to transfer calls between PSAPs;
 - (iv) whether a PSAP should be required to meet minimum operational, technical, or financial standards;
 - (v) whether PSAP staff should be required to meet minimum training standards; and

- (vi) how PSAPs can better use the available communications spectrum to reduce the number of devices that first responders are required to use;
 - (d) describing and recommending potential solutions to the biggest impediments to functional consolidation of PSAPs; and
 - (e) making recommendations regarding necessary personnel and associated job duties within the authority.
- (3) On or before September 30, 2016, the board shall complete and submit the performance audit and study described in Subsection (2), in writing, to the Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice Interim Committee and the Retirement and Independent Entities Interim Committee.
- (4)
 - (a) Money from the Unified Statewide 911 Emergency Service Account created in Section 63H-7a-304 may not be used to fund a new local PSAP, call taking, or dispatching project or entity before June 30, 2017, unless the board determines that an exigent circumstance requires the allocation of funds.
 - (b) Money from the Unified Statewide 911 Emergency Service Account may be used to fund ongoing maintenance of existing equipment and projects approved before July 1, 2015.
- (5) After July 1, 2017, money spent from the Unified Statewide 911 Emergency Service Account created in Section 63H-7a-304 for projects, including state and local PSAP and dispatching projects, shall be made after consideration of the:
 - (a) recommendations of the performance audit and study described in Subsection (2); and
 - (b) comprehensive strategic plan for the state's network 911 emergency response system and related elements of the public safety communications network described in Subsection 63H-7a-204(18).

Amended by Chapter 123, 2016 General Session

Amended by Chapter 179, 2016 General Session